

(3) informing foreign countries about the technical quality of United States highway transportation goods and services through participation in trade shows, seminars, exhibitions, and other such activities;

(4) offering technical services of the Federal Highway Administration that cannot be readily obtained from United States private sector firms to be incorporated into the proposals of United States private sector firms undertaking highway transportation projects outside the United States if the costs of such services will be recovered under the terms of the project;

(5) conducting studies to assess the need for or feasibility of highway transportation improvements in countries that are not members of the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, as of December 18, 1991, and in Greece and Turkey; and

(6) gathering and disseminating information on foreign transportation markets and industries.

(c) **COOPERATION.**—The Secretary may carry out this section in cooperation with any appropriate Federal agency, State or local agency, authority, association, institution, corporation (profit or nonprofit), foreign government, multinational institution, or other organization or person.

(d) **FUNDS.**—

(1) **CONTRIBUTIONS.**—Funds available to carry out this section shall include funds deposited by any cooperating organization or person into a special account of the Treasury established for this purpose.

(2) **ELIGIBLE USES OF FUNDS.**—The funds deposited into the account and other funds available to carry out this section shall be available to cover the cost of any activity eligible under this section, including the cost of promotional materials, travel, reception and representation expenses, and salaries and benefits.

(3) **REIMBURSEMENTS FOR SALARIES AND BENEFITS.**—Reimbursements for salaries and benefits of Department of Transportation employees providing services under this section shall be credited to the account.

(e) **ELIGIBLE USE OF STATE PLANNING AND RESEARCH FUNDS.**—A State, in coordination with the Secretary, may obligate funds made available to carry out section 505 for any activity authorized under subsection (a).

(Added Pub. L. 105–178, title V, §5106, June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 433.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 506, added Pub. L. 90–495, §30, Aug. 23, 1968, 82 Stat. 832; amended Pub. L. 91–605, title I, §137, Dec. 31, 1970, 84 Stat. 1735, related to replacement housing, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 91–646, title II, §220(a)(10), Jan. 2, 1971, 84 Stat. 1903.

§ 507. Surface transportation-environment cooperative research program

(a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Secretary shall establish and carry out a surface transportation-environment cooperative research program.

(b) **CONTENTS.**—The program to be carried out under this section shall include research designed—

(1) to develop more accurate models for evaluating transportation control measures and transportation system designs that are appropriate for use by State and local governments, including metropolitan planning organizations, in designing implementation plans to meet Federal, State, and local environmental requirements;

(2) to improve understanding of the factors that contribute to the demand for transportation, including transportation system design, demographic change, land use planning, and communications and other information technologies;

(3) to develop indicators of economic, social, and environmental performance of transportation systems to facilitate analysis of potential alternatives;

(4) to study the relationship between highway density and ecosystem integrity, including the impacts of highway density on habitat integrity and overall ecosystem health, and develop a rapid assessment methodology for use by transportation and regulatory agencies in determining the relationship between highway density and ecosystem integrity; and

(5) to meet additional priorities as determined by the advisory board established under subsection (c), including recommendations of the National Research Council in the report entitled “Environmental Research Needs in Transportation”.

(c) **ADVISORY BOARD.**—

(1) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—In consultation with the Secretary of Energy, the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency, and the heads of other appropriate Federal departments and agencies, the Secretary shall establish an advisory board to recommend environmental and energy conservation research, technology, and technology transfer activities related to surface transportation.

(2) **MEMBERSHIP.**—The advisory board shall include—

(A) representatives of State transportation and environmental agencies;

(B) transportation and environmental scientists and engineers; and

(C) representatives of metropolitan planning organizations, transit operating agencies, and environmental organizations.

(d) **NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCES.**—The Secretary may make grants to, and enter into cooperative agreements with, the National Academy of Sciences to carry out such activities relating to the research, technology, and technology transfer activities described in subsection (b) as the Secretary determines appropriate.

(Added Pub. L. 105–178, title V, §5107, June 9, 1998, 112 Stat. 434.)

PRIOR PROVISIONS

A prior section 507, added Pub. L. 90–495, §30, Aug. 23, 1968, 82 Stat. 832, related to expenses incidental to transfer of property, prior to repeal by Pub. L. 91–646, title II, §220(a)(10), Jan. 2, 1971, 84 Stat. 1903.

TERMINATION OF ADVISORY BOARDS

Advisory boards established after Jan. 5, 1973, to terminate not later than the expiration of the 2-year pe-

riod beginning on the date of their establishment, unless, in the case of a board established by the President or an officer of the Federal Government, such board is renewed by appropriate action prior to the expiration of such 2-year period, or in the case of a board established by Congress, its duration is otherwise provided for by law. See sections 3(2) and 14 of Pub. L. 92-463, Oct. 6, 1972, 86 Stat. 770, 776, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

§ 508. Surface transportation research strategic planning

(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary shall—

(1) establish a strategic planning process, consistent with section 306 of title 5 for the Department of Transportation to determine national transportation research and technology development priorities related to surface transportation;

(2) coordinate Federal surface transportation research and technology development activities;

(3) measure the results of those activities and how they impact the performance of the surface transportation systems of the United States; and

(4) ensure that planning and reporting activities carried out under this section are coordinated with all other surface transportation planning and reporting requirements.

(b) IMPLEMENTATION.—The Secretary shall—

(1) provide for the integrated planning, coordination, and consultation among the operating administrations of the Department of Transportation, all other Federal agencies with responsibility for surface transportation research and technology development, State and local governments, institutions of higher education, industry, and other private and public sector organizations engaged in surface transportation-related research and development activities;

(2) ensure that the surface transportation research and technology development programs of the Department do not duplicate other Federal, State, or private sector research and development programs; and

(3) provide for independent validation of the scientific and technical assumptions underlying the surface transportation research and technology development programs of the Department.

(c) SURFACE TRANSPORTATION RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT STRATEGIC PLAN.—

(1) DEVELOPMENT.—The Secretary shall develop an integrated surface transportation research and technology development strategic plan.

(2) CONTENTS.—The plan shall include—

(A) an identification of the general goals and objectives of the Department of Transportation for surface transportation research and development;

(B) a description of the roles of the Department and other Federal agencies in achieving the goals identified under subparagraph (A), in order to avoid unnecessary duplication of effort;

(C) a description of the overall strategy of the Department, and the role of each of the operating administrations of the Department,

in carrying out the plan over the next 5 years, including a description of procedures for coordination of the efforts of the Secretary with the efforts of the operating administrations of the Department and other Federal agencies;

(D) an assessment of how State and local research and technology development activities are contributing to the achievement of the goals identified under subparagraph (A);

(E) details of the surface transportation research and technology development programs of the Department, including performance goals, resources needed to achieve those goals, and performance indicators as described in section 1115(a) of title 31, United States Code, for the next 5 years for each area of research and technology development;

(F) significant comments on the plan obtained from outside sources; and

(G) responses to significant comments obtained from the National Research Council and other advisory bodies, and a description of any corrective actions taken pursuant to such comments.

(3) NATIONAL RESEARCH COUNCIL REVIEW.—The Secretary shall enter into an agreement for the review by the National Research Council of the details of each—

(A) strategic plan or revision required under section 306 of title 5;

(B) performance plan required under section 1115 of title 31; and

(C) program performance report required under section 1116,

with respect to surface transportation research and technology development.

(4) PERFORMANCE PLANS AND REPORTS.—In reports submitted under sections 1115 and 1116 of title 31, the Secretary shall include—

(A) a summary of the results for the previous fiscal year of surface transportation research and technology development programs to which the Department of Transportation contributes, along with—

(i) an analysis of the relationship between those results and the goals identified under paragraph (2)(A); and

(ii) a description of the methodology used for assessing the results; and

(B) a description of significant surface transportation research and technology development initiatives, if any, undertaken during the previous fiscal year that were not in the plan developed under paragraph (1), and any significant changes in the plan from the previous year's plan.

(d) MERIT REVIEW AND PERFORMANCE MEASUREMENT.—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this section, the Secretary shall transmit to Congress a report describing competitive merit review procedures for use in selecting grantees and contractors in the programs covered by the plan developed under subsection (c) and performance measurement procedures for evaluating the programs.

(e) PROCUREMENT PROCEDURES.—The Secretary shall—